

Remarks

Claims 1-20 are pending. Proposed amendments to claims 3, 14 and 15 are submitted herein. Claims 10-13 and 17-20 are canceled.

Proposed amendments to the specification are presented. These amendments to the specification correct obvious typographical errors.

The Office Action indicated that claims 5, 6 and 14-16 contain allowable subject matter, and only objected to these claims as dependent upon rejected claims. Applicants acknowledge with appreciation said indication of allowability. Applicants herein amend claims 14 and 15 to include limitations of base and intervening claims. Claim 16 depends from claim 15. Claims 5 and 6 depend from claim 3, which applicants propose amending as discussed below.

The Office Action rejected claims 1-4 and 7-9 under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) over U.S. Patent 6,064,247 (Krakirian) in view of U.S. Patent 5,701,441 (Trimberger). Claim 1 recites stopping emulation by stopping the base clock signal, wherein the index to the look up table is stopped at a stopping point in a clock cycle of the derived clock signal and the derived clock signal does not continue to a subsequent transition before stopping. Krakirian does not describe or suggest this feature. Trimberger also fails to describe stopping emulation by stopping the base clock signal, wherein the index to the look up table is stopped at a stopping point in a clock cycle of the derived clock signal and the derived clock signal does not continue to a subsequent transition before stopping. Even if Krakirian and Trimberger are properly combinable (which applicants do not concede), the combination does not describe or suggest the recited step. The recited step is also not taught by other art of record (including partial translations of previously cited Japanese language references which were filed on July 2, 2003), and claim 1 is therefore allowable.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1, and is thus allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 1.

Applicants herein propose amending claim 3 to recite a clock generation circuit to stop and resume emulation of the one or more circuit designs ... wherein when the base clock signal is stopped, the derived clock signal is stopped at a stopping point in a clock cycle of the derived clock signal without continuing to a subsequent transition of the derived clock signal, and the derived clock signal is resumed from the stopping point when the base clock signal is resumed. For reasons similar to those discussed with regard to claim 1, this feature is not taught by the art of record, and claim 3 would thus be allowable for at least this reason. Moreover, entry of this amendment to claim 3 will not necessitate further search or substantial further consideration.

Claims 4-7 depend from claim 3, and are therefore allowable for at least the same reasons as claim 3. The Office Action indicated that claims 5 and 6 contain allowable subject matter. Applicants further note that claim 7 does not recite a multiplexor.

The Office Action did not specifically address claim 8. However, claim 8 is allowable for reasons similar to those set forth with regard to claim 1. Claim 9 depends from claim 8, and is thus allowable for at least the same reasons.

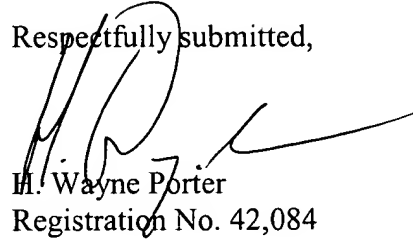
Claims 14 and 15 have been amended to incorporate the limitations of base and intervening claims, and as noted by the Office Action, are therefore allowable. Claim 16 depends from claim 15 and is thus also allowable.

Conclusion

Applicants respectfully submit that upon entry of the requested amendments, the application will be in condition for allowance. An early notice to this effect is requested. Should the Examiner believe that anything further is desirable in order to place the application in even

better form for allowance, he is respectfully urged to contact Applicants' undersigned representative at the below-listed number.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'M. Wayne Porter', is written over the typed name and registration number.

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